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### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add or amend the claims to read as follows, and cancel without prejudice or disclaimer to resubmission in a divisional or continuation application claims indicated as cancelled:

1. (Amended) A method for filtered application-to-application communication of applications running on computing platforms including an operating system kernel, said method comprising:  
  
    providing a communication interface to an application, wherein the communication interface bypasses a substantial portion of the operating system kernel;  
  
    filtering application data received from a process of said application according to a predetermined policy; and  
  
    providing said filtered application data directly to communication hardware by bypassing a substantial portion of the operating system kernel.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
  
    verifying the identity of said application prior to providing said filtered application data.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising:  
  
    sending at least one security token.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
  
    verifying the identity of a machine participating in said process prior to providing said filtered application data.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising:

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sending at least one security token.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein providing said filtered application data comprises providing said filtered application data directly to a multi-channel network interface card having direct user-to-hardware access.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said multi-channel network interface card is an InfiniBand card.
8. (Amended) A method for filtered application-to-application communication of applications running on computing platforms including an operating system kernel, said method comprising:
  - providing a communication interface to an application, wherein the communication interface bypasses a substantial portion of the operating system kernel;
  - filtering application data received from a process of said application;
  - sending an authentication request to an authentication service;
  - receiving authentication information; and
  - providing said filtered application data directly to communication hardware by bypassing a substantial portion of the operating system kernel.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8 further comprising:
  - verifying the identity of said application prior to providing said filtered application data.
10. (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising:
  - sending at least one security token
11. (Original) The method of claim 8 further comprising:

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verifying the identity of a machine participating in said process prior to providing said filtered application data.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising:  
    sending at least one security token
13. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein providing said filtered application data comprises providing said filtered application data directly to a multi-channel network interface card having direct user-to-hardware access.
14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said multi-channel network interface card is an InfiniBand card.
15. (Amended) A system for filtered application-to-application communication of applications running on computing platforms including an operating system kernel, said method comprising:  
    multi-channel communication hardware; and  
    at least one application interface and filter operative to provide filtered data from an application process directly to said multi-channel communication hardware by bypassing a substantial portion of the operating system kernel.
16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein said communication hardware is a multi-channel network interface card having direct user-to-hardware access.
17. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein said multi-channel network interface card is an InfiniBand card.
18. (Amended) A system for filtered application-to-application communication of applications running on computing platforms including an operating system kernel, said method comprising:

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multi-channel communication hardware;

at least one application interface and filter operative to provide filtered data from an application process directly to said multi-channel communication hardware by bypassing a substantial portion of the operating system kernel; and

at least one authentication service adapted to determine whether said application process is genuine and/or whether at least one machine participating in said application process is genuine.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said communication hardware is a multi-channel network interface card having a direct user-to-hardware access.
20. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said multi-channel network interface card is an InfiniBand card.